

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 1, please insert the following as the first paragraph:

This application is a U.S. National Phase Application under 35 USC 371 of International Application PCT/GB2004/000056, filed January 12, 2004.

Insert the following:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention relates to a composition for treating inorganic slurries and to a method of treating inorganic slurries with the aforesaid composition so as to maintain the slurries in a substantially homogeneous phase. The composition comprises a THP⁺ salt and a dispersant. The dispersant is (i) phosphonated compound containing at least one tertiary nitrogen atom; (ii) phosphonated oligomers of unsaturated acids; (iii) homopolymers of unsaturated acids; or (iv) Polyphosphates The THP⁺ salt is preferably THPS.